

In re Patent Application of:
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In the Abstract:

Please delete the Abstract of the Disclosure section on page 21 in its entirety and add the following Abstract of the Disclosure section:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for monitoring idling mode connections between a base station and idling subscriber units that are powered on, but not actively sending data, is provided. The method includes making available a plurality of orthogonal subchannels within at least one Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) radio frequency (RF) channel. A shared orthogonal subchannel is assigned to at least two different idling subscriber units, but utilizing different time slots of the shared orthogonal subchannels. For each idling subscriber unit assigned the shared orthogonal subchannel, a respective heartbeat signal is sent within its assigned time slot at a data rate that is low enough to maintain bit synchronization with the base station. The respective heartbeat signals are tracked within the assigned time slots by selecting an assigned time slot within the shared orthogonal subchannel, retrieving a previous tracking of a respective heartbeat signal for an idling subscriber unit associated with the assigned time slot, determining a current tracking of the respective heartbeat signal for the idling subscriber unit associated with the assigned time slot, and updating the tracking of the idling subscriber unit associated with the assigned time slot based upon its current and previous trackings.